

the consular representatives of Latin America and visiting Latin American physicians and students. The Association received a great tribute in the fact that all the Latin American consuls were present, excepting two, who could not attend on account of illness. Many Latin American physicians were in attendance. . . .

Dr. Francis Scott Smyth, Dean of the University of California Medical School, gave a most instructive and interesting address on "Inter-American Medical Relations." Sr. Juan José Martínez Lacayo, Dean of the Latin American Consular Corps, spoke in Spanish on the whole-hearted collaboration of the Latin American consuls with the officers of the Pan American Medical Association. The Honorable Annibal de Saboia Lima, Consul General of Brazil, expressed the appreciation of his country for the assistance of American physicians in combating infectious diseases in Brazil. The Honorable Sr. Fernando Berckemeyer, Consul General of Peru, and the Honorable Martín Luis Drago, Consul General of Argentina, voiced their recognition of the catholic work that the members of the medical profession are doing towards alleviation of human suffering in the western hemisphere.

Dr. Joseph Jordan Eller, Director General of the Association, has informed us that the Eighth Congress of the Association will be held at the Hotel Waldorf-Astoria in New York in September. The Congress will be devoted entirely to war medical problems with the idea of consolidating our medical efforts on a hemispherical basis. All branches of medicine and surgery will be represented and the most representative physicians from South America and Central America, as well as North America, will be present. The Congress will devote one or two days to the problems of the physicians in the Armed Services. Such subjects as: contagious diseases, treatment of burns, blood banks, sulfa drug therapy, traumatic and plastic surgery, together with dental problems, will be included in the program.

The chapter has 120 active members residing in central California. Of these, fourteen are in active service in the armed forces of our country. . . .

SALVATORE P. LUCIA, M. D., *Secretary*.

#### Concerning Medical Supplies to Soviet Russia:

(COPY)

RUSSIAN WAR RELIEF, INC.

*Registered with President's War Relief Control Board  
No. 547*

San Francisco, April 28, 1943.

*To the Editor:*—Through Russian War Relief there is now being organized in every State of the Union a specific and concrete method for the attainment of that unity and understanding between our Allies which is a prerequisite for victory.

Americans, through our organization, have sent invaluable aid to the fighting forces and the people of the Soviet Union. Over 70 per cent of this aid has been in the form of medical supplies. Now, as part of a tribute to Russia Celebration during May and June, we are asking for five million or more Americans to write a personal letter to a Soviet citizen. This plan was suggested by receipt in headquarters and by our contributors receiving hundreds of letters from Soviet citizens who have received clothing, food, medicines and other supplies contributed by Americans. These letters thanked the contributors, then in almost every case said: "I wish you would write to me."

Will you help in this National effort by publishing this letter in your Journal? It is an invitation to every doctor

to send a letter to Russian War Relief, 422 Sutter Street, San Francisco. Each letter will be given to a doctor in Russia and will be translated by committees, teachers or a friend.

Yours very truly,  
PHILLIPS DAVIES, *Chairman*,  
Tribute to Russia Celebration  
For Northern California Division.

422 Sutter Street.

#### Concerning a Fake Solicitor (Health and Accident Policies):

(COPY)

Visalia, California, April 12, 1943.

*To the Editor:*—A man by the name of C. A. Kelley is soliciting the doctors with what he claims is a non-cancellable health and accident policy issued by the Income Guaranty Co., of South Bend, Indiana. The reason I write you is that he claims the company to be a subsidiary of Medical Protective of Fort Wayne, Indiana. He was so glib that I became suspicious and wrote Medical Protective.

I am advised that there is no connection whatsoever between the companies and that this individual has done this before. I thought it might be wise to report this to you so that it might be given publicity in CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE to protect others who might be tempted to buy.

Margaret joins me in sending best wishes.

Sincerely yours,

GEORGE F. KEIPER.

#### Concerning Physicians' Gasoline Allowance:

Following are excerpts from a letter addressed to the San Francisco County Medical Society by Legal Counsel Hartley F. Peart:

"We have received several inquiries from members of the Society as to what use they may make of additional gasoline allowed by their 'C' ration books.

"Under the regulations issued by the OPA, the preferred mileage allowed to physicians is limited to that necessary in making professional calls upon patients and the physician is not even permitted to use gasoline allowed by his 'C' book to attend medical conventions or meetings of the profession.

"In this connection, you may wish to call the attention of the members of the Society to the following requirements of the applicable regulations:

"Travel by physician between home and office. Although a physician is not entitled to preferred mileage for travel between his home and office merely to keep office hours and to treat patients, he may be allowed preferred mileage for professional calls even though travel on such calls require occasional visits to his office to pick up equipment or to obtain directions and information necessary to make such calls.

"Travel by physicians, surgeons, etc., for conferences, conventions or courses of study. Travel to or from conferences or conventions or in attending courses of study may not be included in preferred mileage, even though such activities may better equip such persons to carry on their professional work.

"Travel by supervisors and agency heads. Mileage driven by supervisors and agency heads who direct the work of physicians and surgeons may not be allowed as preferred mileage since such travel is not for making necessary professional calls, nor is it travel between offices maintained by them."